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EXTRAORDINARY

PART II—Section 2

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LOK SABHA

The following Bill was introduced in Lok Sabha on the 13th December, 1957:

BILL No. 100 OF 1957

A Bill further to amend the Requisitioning and Acquisition of immovable Property Act, 1952.

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Eighth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. This Act may be called the Requisitioning and Acquisition of Short title.
Immovable Property (Amendment) Act, 1957.

5 2. In section 1 of the Requisitioning and Acquisition of Immov- Amendment
able Property Act, 1952, sub-section (3) shall be omitted. of section 1.

30 of 1952.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Requisitioning and Acquisition of Immovable Property Act, 1952, which empowers the Central Government to requisition immovable property for the purposes of the Union and to acquire requisitioned property under certain circumstances is due to expire on the 14th of March, 1958.

It is not, however, always feasible either to release the property held under requisition or to acquire it because the former course of action will aggravate the existing shortage which is of the order of 7 to 8 lakh sq. ft. of office accommodation and 40 to 42,000 units of residential accommodation and the latter will involve expenditure running into several crores of rupees. In this connection, it has been estimated that the property held under requisition by the Defence Ministry alone is of the value of seven to eight crores of rupees. The conversion of existing requisitioning into leases besides being expensive is fraught with much difficulty as landlords are generally averse to making leases in favour of Government. In the context of the continuing expansion of developmental activity of the Government, it is inevitable that augmentation of accommodation resources by new construction would lag behind the actual requirements at any given time. The conditions which necessitated resort to requisitioning are, therefore, likely to persist for a long time to come. The experience of the last 18 years during which Government have had power to requisition or continue under requisition property for essential Union purposes [first under the Defence of India Act, 1939, subsequently under the Requisitioned Land (Continuance of Power) Act, 1947, and lately under the Requisitioning and Acquisition of Immovable Property Act, 1952] also reinforces the need for Government to retain these powers indefinitely. In the circumstances, it is proposed to convert the existing temporary enactment into a permanent one.

K. C. REDDY.

NEW DELHI;

The 5th December, 1957.

M. N. KAUL,
Secretary.